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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
SAN FRANCISCO DIVISION

In re FACEBOOK BIOMETRIC
INFORMATION PRIVACY LITIGATION

) Master File No. 3:15-cv-03747-JD
)
) PLAINTIFFS' OPPOSITION TO
) DEFENDANT FACEBOOK, INC.'S
) MOTION FOR SUMMARY JUDGMENT;
) AND PLAINTIFFS' DEFERRAL REQUEST
) UNDER RULE 56(d)
)

This Document Relates To:
ALL ACTIONS.

FREDERICK W. GULLEN, Individually and
on Behalf of All Others Similarly Situated,

) Case No. 3:16-cv-00937-JD
)

Plaintiff,

) DATE: January 25, 2018
) TIME: 10:00 a.m.
) COURTROOM: 11, 19th Floor
)

vs.

FACEBOOK, INC.,

Defendant.
)
)
)

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Pursuant to Rule 56 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and this Court’s Standing Order for Civil Cases, Plaintiffs¹ hereby oppose Defendant Facebook, Inc.’s (“Facebook”) Motion for Summary Judgment Based on Illinois’ Extraterritoriality Doctrine and the Dormant Commerce Clause (ECF No. 257) (“MSJ”), hearing date set for January 25, 2018 at 10:00 a.m. In the alternative, pursuant to Rule 56(d) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and the Court’s amended scheduling order (ECF No. 223) (“scheduling order”), Plaintiffs request that the Court defer Facebook’s motion until after the close of expert discovery, such that the Court and parties can address all summary judgment grounds at once on a complete evidentiary record.

I. INTRODUCTION

Facebook has again jumped the gun. When these actions under the Illinois Biometric Information Privacy Act (“BIPA”) were first consolidated before this Court, Facebook moved for early summary judgment on a fact-specific choice-of-law affirmative defense. After Plaintiffs and the Court indulged expedited discovery and an evidentiary hearing, the Court rejected Facebook’s purported defense and returned the case to an orderly schedule, thus exposing Facebook’s tact for what it was: a premature, futile distraction.

Now, in clear violation of the Court’s scheduling order and admonition that summary judgment would come after expert discovery, Facebook has moved for summary judgment on the basis of two affirmative defenses. Just as before, Facebook’s arguments lack merit.

Facebook failed to plead the first defense – extraterritoriality under Illinois law – and thus waived it. Even if not waived, Facebook relies on self-serving employee declarations and testimony, all of which depends on credibility determinations and thus cannot carry Facebook’s initial burden on summary judgment. And, in any event, Facebook’s BIPA violations occurred in Illinois because the overwhelming majority of circumstances relating to the violations occurred there. Facebook automatically collected Plaintiffs’ scans of face geometry without consent from photos uploaded in Illinois, by Illinois residents, and from devices assigned Illinois-based internet protocol (“IP”) addresses. Facebook targeted Illinois residents in Illinois, failed to get their consent in Illinois, failed

¹ “Plaintiffs” refers to Nimesh Patel, Adam Pezen, Carlo Licata and Frederick William Gullen.

1 to provide notice in Illinois, purports to have entered into related contracts with those Illinois
2 residents in Illinois, and issued BIPA-deficient disclosures and data retention policies to those
3 Illinois residents in Illinois. Indeed, [REDACTED]

4 [REDACTED]
5 [REDACTED] As every court to
6 consider the issue agrees, on such facts, Facebook’s BIPA violations occurred within Illinois.

7 Facebook’s second defense – the dormant Commerce Clause – is even further off the mark.
8 To comply with BIPA, Facebook need only refrain from collecting scans of face geometry without
9 consent from photos uploaded in Illinois. Facebook already has the means to accomplish this.

10 Facebook’s motion for summary judgment should be denied in its entirety.

11 **II. BACKGROUND**

12 **A. Facebook’s Course of Conduct**

13 Facebook operates the largest online social network in the world, with millions of users in
14 Illinois alone. Facebook encourages users to fill their Facebook pages with personal information,
15 generating reams of data for Facebook to mine, sort, aggregate, disaggregate, and sell. One of the
16 principal sources of such information is the torrent of photos users upload daily.²

17 Since June 2011, virtually every uploaded photo has been immediately subjected to
18 Facebook’s facial-recognition software.³ The software, [REDACTED], enables
19 Facebook’s “Tag Suggestions” feature [REDACTED]

20 [REDACTED]
21 [REDACTED]⁴ [REDACTED]

22 _____
23 ² See Facebook’s Registration Statement (U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (“SEC”)
24 Form S-1), at 74 (Feb. 1, 2012) (“[M]ore than 250 million photos *per day* were uploaded to
Facebook in the three months end[ing] December 31, 2011.”). All internal citations and quotations
omitted, and emphasis added throughout, unless stated otherwise.

25 ³ See ECF No. 169, at 1; [REDACTED] All “Ex. __” references are to
26 exhibits filed with the instant motion.

27 ⁴ [REDACTED]
28 [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]⁵ [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]⁶

This integrated course of conduct commences immediately upon, and is complete within fractions of seconds after, the initial upload of a photo. At the time of upload, *inter alia*, Facebook knows: (a) the IP address associated with the device by which the photo was uploaded;⁷ (b) the state where that device IP address is located;⁸ (c) which Facebook user's account uploaded the photos; (d) whether that account is associated with someone living in or a business or other organization located within Illinois; (e) whether that user account has opted out of the Tag Suggestions feature;⁹ and (f) whether the uploading device is mobile, thus that the face detection and cropping occur locally on the device in the state where the device is located.¹⁰ Facebook also applies geo-recognition technology to spot geographic landmarks appearing in the photos and identifies where the photos were taken – *e.g.*, identifying Sears Tower in the background and thus associating a photo (and any persons appearing therein) with Chicago, Illinois.¹¹

⁵ See Ex. 5, [REDACTED]

⁶ [REDACTED]

⁷ [REDACTED]

⁸ [REDACTED]

⁹ [REDACTED]

¹⁰ [REDACTED]

¹¹ [REDACTED]

1 As Facebook insiders admit, the personal face-recognition data Facebook collects through
2 this process [REDACTED]¹² Perhaps
3 not surprisingly, then, Facebook’s user agreement (variously called its “Terms of Service,” “Terms
4 of Use,” or “Statement of Rights and Responsibilities”) says nothing about collecting biometric data,
5 or scanning, mapping and storing templates of users’ facial geometry, or its implications for user
6 privacy. In 2010, Facebook added language to its privacy policy (which it purports to incorporate
7 into the user agreement) explaining simply that Facebook merely “compar[es] your friend’s pictures
8 to information we’ve put together from the photos you’ve been tagged in.”¹³ In 2013, Facebook
9 added that it also derived information from profile pictures, though it left the remainder of the
10 explanation unchanged.¹⁴ A user is not required or asked to acknowledge any other disclosures
11 before using Facebook’s services or being automatically included in Facebook’s face-recognition
12 process.

13 **B. Illinois’s Biometric Information Privacy Act**

14 The foregoing course of conduct – Facebook’s surreptitious collection of Illinois residents’
15 face geometry – poses precisely the threat to individual privacy that motivated the Illinois legislature
16 to enact BIPA. 740 Ill. Comp. Stat. 14. As the legislature found, “biometrics are unlike other
17 unique identifiers” because they can’t be changed. *Id.* “Therefore, once compromised, the
18 individual has no recourse.” *Id.* Accordingly, the Illinois legislature adopted several safeguards to
19 ensure people in Illinois can maintain control over their face geometry and other biometric
20 identifiers. As relevant here, private companies may only collect scans of face geometry in Illinois if
21 they first inform the subject individuals and obtain their, or the subject’s authorized representative’s,
22

23 [REDACTED]

24 ¹² [REDACTED]
25 [REDACTED]

26 ¹³ [REDACTED]
27 [REDACTED]

28 ¹⁴ [REDACTED]

1 informed written consent, 740 Ill. Comp. Stat. 14/15(b), and must establish publicly available
2 guidelines regarding when they will destroy the collected scans of face geometry. 740 Ill. Comp.
3 Stat. 14/15(a). Across the board, Facebook fails to comply.

4 **C. Procedural History**

5 To redress Facebook’s wholesale BIPA violations, in Spring 2015, Plaintiffs commenced
6 these class actions in Illinois. After transfer and consolidation in the Northern District of
7 California,¹⁵ Facebook moved early for summary judgment, raising two principal arguments: (1) an
8 affirmative defense that claims under Illinois law were precluded by California choice-of-law
9 clauses in Facebook’s terms of use; and (2) a tortured statutory construction of BIPA that exempted
10 the collection of biometric identifiers from photographs. After expedited discovery and an
11 evidentiary hearing, the Court rejected both of Facebook’s arguments, holding: (1) that Illinois’s
12 fundamental policy of biometric privacy trumped any purported right of California corporations to
13 avoid diverse regulation; and (2) that Facebook’s statutory interpretation was “antithetical to
14 [BIPA’s] broad purpose of protecting privacy in the face of emerging biometric technology” and
15 rested on “no support in the words and structure of the statute.” *See In re Facebook Biometric Info.*
16 *Privacy Litig.*, 185 F. Supp. 3d 1155, 1172 (N.D. Cal. 2016).

17 Facebook then answered the complaint, alleging twenty-two affirmative defenses but making
18 no mention of any defenses premised on extraterritoriality under Illinois law or violation of the
19 dormant Commerce Clause. ECF No. 126. Five months later Facebook amended its answer, adding
20 a dormant Commerce Clause affirmative defense but still failing to plead any defense of
21 extraterritoriality under Illinois law. ECF No. 169.

22 During the September 7, 2017 status conference, the Court considered the case schedule in
23 light of remaining fact discovery and yet-to-commence expert discovery, and specifically ordered –
24

25
26 ¹⁵ See Ex. 30 (Declaration of David P. Milian in Support of Plaintiffs’ Opposition to Defendant
27 Facebook, Inc.’s Motion for Summary Judgment Under Fed. R. Civ. P. 56(d)). Gullen commenced
28 his action in Illinois on August 31, 2015. After dismissal on personal jurisdiction grounds, Gullen
re-filed on January 26, 2016, in the Superior Court, County of San Mateo. On February 25, 2016,
Facebook removed Gullen’s action to this Court pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§1332, 1441 and 1446.

1 at Facebook’s own urging, no less – that all motions for summary judgment be filed only after the
2 close of expert discovery. The Court’s instructions were clear:

3 Court: There’s going to be close of fact discovery. There’s going to be close
4 of expert discovery. Then you’re going to do all of your motions after that. . . .
 Otherwise it’s too chaotic.¹⁶

5 On September 11, 2017, the Court entered an amended scheduling order reflecting the same. ECF
6 No. 223.

7 In accordance with that schedule, Plaintiffs filed their class certification motions on
8 December 8, 2017. *See, e.g.*, ECF No. 255. Later that same day, Facebook filed its motion for
9 summary judgment. ECF No. 257.

10 Given the plain procedural impropriety of Facebook’s motion, Plaintiffs immediately moved
11 the Court to summarily deny or continue the motion until after the close of expert discovery, in
12 accordance with the Court’s existing scheduling order and such that the Court and parties can
13 address all summary judgment grounds at once on a full evidentiary record. ECF No. 262.

14 Still, as explained below, Facebook’s motion for summary judgment also fails on the merits.

15 **III. LEGAL STANDARD**

16 Summary judgment is only appropriate “when no genuine and disputed issues of material fact
17 remain, and when, viewing the evidence most favorably to the nonmoving party, the movant is
18 clearly entitled to prevail as a matter of law.” *Satterfield v. Simon & Schuster, Inc.*, 569 F.3d 946,
19 950 (9th Cir. 2009) (citing Fed. R. Civ. P. 56). A material issue of fact is a question the jury must
20 answer under the applicable substantive law, and dispute is genuine “if the evidence is such that a
21 reasonable jury could return a verdict for the nonmoving party.” *Anderson v. Liberty Lobby, Inc.*,
22 477 U.S. 242, 248 (1986). “Credibility determinations, the weighing of the evidence, and the
23 drawing of legitimate inferences from the facts are jury functions, not those of a judge . . .” *Id.* at
24 255.

25 Where, as here, “the moving party has the burden of proof at trial, that party must carry its
26 initial burden at summary judgment by presenting evidence affirmatively showing, for all essential

27 ¹⁶ See Sept. 7, 2017 Transcript of Proceedings, at 19:17-21 (ECF No. 222).
28

elements of its case, that no reasonable jury could find for the non-moving party.” *Fara Estates Homeowners Ass’n v. Fara Estates, Ltd.*, No. 96-17338, 1998 U.S. App. LEXIS 481, at *13-*14 (9th Cir. Jan. 9, 1998); *Houghton v. South*, 965 F.2d 1532, 1536 (9th Cir. 1992) (same). “If a moving party fails to carry its initial burden, the nonmoving party has no obligation to produce anything” and summary judgment must be denied. *Nissan Fire & Marine Ins. Co. v. Fritz Cos.*, 210 F.3d 1099, 1102-03 (9th Cir. 2000); *Adickes v. S.H. Kress & Co.*, 398 U.S. 144, 161 (1970) (“No defense to an insufficient showing is required.”). Even if the moving party does carry its initial burden, the nonmoving party “need only present evidence from which a jury might return a verdict in his favor. If he does so, there is a genuine issue of fact that requires a trial,” and thus summary judgment must be denied. *Anderson*, 477 U.S. at 257.

IV. FACEBOOK IS NOT ENTITLED TO SUMMARY JUDGMENT

Facebook’s summary judgment motion argues two fact-specific affirmative defenses: (1) that all the events and circumstances underpinning Plaintiffs’ BIPA claims occur outside Illinois and, thus, outside the territorial scope of BIPA; and (2) that applying BIPA to these circumstances would violate the dormant Commerce Clause. Both fail.

As to the first, Facebook failed to plead, and thus waived, its purported extraterritoriality affirmative defense. Even if not waived, Facebook’s summary judgment motion relies entirely on self-serving employee declarations and testimony insufficient to carry Facebook’s initial burden on summary judgment. In any event, Facebook’s BIPA violations occurred in Illinois because the overwhelming majority of circumstances relating to the violations occurred there. Facebook automatically collected Plaintiffs’ scans of face geometry without consent from photos uploaded in Illinois, by Illinois residents, and from devices assigned Illinois-based internet protocol (“IP”) addresses. Facebook targeted Illinois residents in Illinois, failed to get their consent in Illinois, failed to provide notice in Illinois, purports to have entered into related contracts with those Illinois residents in Illinois, and issued BIPA-deficient disclosures and data retention policies to those Illinois residents in Illinois. Indeed, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] As every court to

1 consider the issue agrees, on such facts, Facebook’s BIPA violations occurred within Illinois. *Rivera*
2 *v. Google Inc.*, 238 F. Supp. 3d 1088, 1101-02 (N.D. Ill. 2017) (under nearly identical
3 circumstances, holding BIPA claims took place in Illinois); *Monroy v. Shutterfly, Inc.*, No. 16 C
4 10984, 2017 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 149604, at *15-*17 (N.D. Ill. Sept. 15, 2017) (same).

5 Facebook’s second defense also fails. Application of the BIPA in these circumstances does
6 not violate the dormant Commerce Clause. Facebook is free to gather photos nationwide. Facebook
7 is even free to extract scans of face geometry from photos uploaded outside Illinois. But Facebook
8 is not free, absent informed consent, to extract scans of face geometry from photos uploaded in
9 Illinois. To comply with BIPA, Facebook need only refrain from collecting scans of face geometry
10 from photos uploaded in Illinois, or obtain BIPA-mandated consent before doing so. Facebook
11 already has the technical means to accomplish this today.¹⁷ It is only a matter of will. Applying
12 BIPA to Facebook’s misconduct thus does not violate the dormant Commerce Clause.

13 Facebook’s motion for summary judgment should be denied in its entirety.

14 **A. Facebook’s Extraterritoriality Affirmative Defense Does Not Warrant**
15 **Summary Judgment**

16 **1. Facebook Failed to Plead, and Thus Waived, Its Purported**
17 **Extraterritoriality Affirmative Defense**

18 Facebook’s primary ground – extraterritoriality under Illinois law – is an affirmative defense.
19 *See, e.g., H.R.R. Zimmerman Co. v. Tecumseh Prods. Co.*, No. 99 C 5437, 2002 U.S. Dist. LEXIS
20 16911 (N.D. Ill. Sept. 5, 2002) (extraterritoriality under Illinois statute is an affirmative defense);
21 *Am. Top Eng., Inc. v. Lexicon Mktg. (USA), Inc.*, No. 03 C 7021, 2004 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 11486
22 (N.D. Ill. June 18, 2004) (same); *Dobrowolski v. Intelius, Inc.*, No. 17 CV 1406, 2017 U.S. Dist.
23 LEXIS 138587, at *27 n.9 (N.D. Ill. Aug. 29, 2017) (same). Indeed, by definition, an affirmative
24 defense is a ““defendant’s assertion of facts and arguments, that if true, will defeat the plaintiff’s . . .
25 claim, even if all the allegations in the complaint are true.”” *Westrope v. Ringler Assocs.*, No. 3:14-
26 cv-00604-ST, 2015 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 17932, at *17 (D. Or. Feb. 12, 2015). Facebook’s

27 ¹⁷ [REDACTED]
28 [REDACTED]

extraterritoriality argument is exactly that. As Facebook’s own motion frames the issue: “If Facebook’s use of facial-recognition technology *did* violate BIPA, that alleged violation took place *outside* Illinois.” MSJ at 1 (some emphasis in original). Thus, Facebook’s extraterritoriality argument is, by its very nature, an affirmative defense. *See H.R.R. Zimmerman*, 2002 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 16911 (extraterritoriality under Illinois law held an affirmative defense); *Am. Top Eng.*, 2004 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 11486 (same); *Dobrowolski*, 2017 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 138587, at *27 n.9 (same).^{18,19}

Facebook, however, elected not to plead this affirmative defense in its answer. Nor in its amended answer. Nor in any of its seriatim motions to dismiss. By repeatedly failing to plead or even raise this affirmative defense, Facebook waived it. *See, e.g., Morrison v. Mahoney*, 399 F.3d 1042, 1046 (9th Cir. 2005) (a party “is required to raise every defense in its first responsive pleading, and defenses not so raised are deemed waived”) (citing Fed. R. Civ. P. 8(c), 12(b), 12(g)). Because Facebook waived its purported extraterritoriality affirmative defense, summary judgment for Facebook on that ground should be denied. *See, e.g., DZ Bank AG Deutsche Zentral-Genossenschaftsbank v. Connect Ins. Agency, Inc.*, No. C14-5880JLR, 2016 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 18614 (W.D. Wash. Feb. 14, 2016) (where defendant failed to plead affirmative defense in answer,

¹⁸ *See also Westrope*, 2015 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 17932, at *18 (similar extraterritoriality argument under Alaska statute held an affirmative defense, explaining: “it is possible that Defendants’ out of state actions in this case . . . may be sufficient to make Defendants . . . [liable for] violation of [the Alaska statute]. Despite that being true, if Defendants were able to show that they acted exclusively outside of Alaska . . . there would be no violation This is the dictionary definition of an affirmative defense.”); *MediaTek Inc. v. Freescale Semiconductor, Inc.*, No. 11-cv-5341 YGR, 2014 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 18640 (N.D. Cal. Feb. 13, 2014) (extraterritoriality argument under federal patent law held an affirmative defense).

¹⁹ Facebook’s cited cases are not to the contrary. *See* ECF No. 266, at 4-5. None suggest extraterritoriality is anything other than an affirmative defense. Each simply dismissed where an extraterritoriality affirmative defense appeared on the face of the complaint. *See, e.g., Hackett v. BMW of N. Am., LLC*, No. 10 C 7731, 2011 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 71063, at *5 (N.D. Ill. June 30, 2011) (“[I]f, **as Plaintiff claims**, he was induced to purchase the vehicle based on the false advertising, any deception occurred at the time of the transaction. Therefore there can be no ICFA claim.”); *cf. Dobrowolski*, 2017 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 138587, at *27 n.9 (extraterritoriality under Illinois law is an affirmative defense).

summary judgment on that affirmative defense denied as to defendant and instead entered for plaintiff).²⁰

2. Facebook’s Reliance on Self-Serving Employee Declarations and Testimony of Suspect Credibility Is Insufficient to Carry Its Initial Burden on Summary Judgment

Even if not waived, summary judgment should still be denied because Facebook fails to carry its initial evidentiary burden. Facebook “bears the burden of persuasion at trial on th[is] issue,” and thus “may not meet its initial burden by pointing to the [Plaintiffs’ purported] lack of evidence on [the] issue.” *11 Moore’s Federal Practice – Civil §56.40* (3d ed. 2013). Rather, Facebook “must produce evidence that would conclusively support its right to a judgment.” *Id.* “In other words, the evidence in the [Facebook]’s favor must be so powerful that no reasonable jury would be free to disbelieve it. Anything less should result in denial of summary judgment.” *Id.*

Facebook’s motion relies almost entirely on self-serving declarations and testimony from current Facebook employees, Yaniv Taigman and Omry Yadan.²¹ Both depend on Facebook and the viability of its face recognition program for their careers and compensation. Both are prior employees of Face.com who made millions of dollars leasing and then selling to Facebook the face-recognition technology at the heart of this lawsuit. Indeed, both may be individually liable for Face.com’s and their own violations of BIPA. Facebook’s self-serving declarations are also conclusory, proclaiming without support how [REDACTED]

²⁰ None of the “limited exceptions” to waiver apply here. Facebook attempts “to raise this [unpled] affirmative defense after the scheduling order’s cutoff for amended pleadings,” and thus subjects itself to “the strict[] ‘good cause’ standard under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 16(b).” *DZ Bank AG*, 2016 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 18614, at *80-*83. Rule 16(b)’s good cause standard centers on the moving party’s diligence: “If that party was not diligent, the inquiry should end.” *Id.* at *81. Here, Facebook can offer no excuse for repeatedly failing to plead this affirmative defense. The underlying facts – Facebook’s own technology – have always been available to and under Facebook’s exclusive control. “[C]arelessness is not compatible with a finding of diligence and offers no reason for a grant of relief.” *Id.* Moreover, fact discovery is already closed; Facebook’s sandbagging prejudices Plaintiffs, preventing any fact discovery into the contents of Facebook’s declarations or any expert discovery at all. *See, e.g., U.S. E.E.O.C. v. NCL Am., Inc.*, 536 F. Supp. 2d 1216, 1226 (D. Haw. 2008) (granting summary judgment for plaintiff on a defendant’s failure to plead specific affirmative defense in part because defendant’s failure to please defense prevented plaintiffs from having sufficient time for discovery).

²¹ *See* MSJ at 2-5, 6-13.

1 [REDACTED]²² Worse yet, much of Mr. Yadan’s declaration
2 directly contradicts his earlier testimony.²³ Without expert discovery, these contested conclusions
3 remain in dispute. Given the many conflicts of interest, at trial Plaintiffs will challenge, and the jury
4 will determine, whether and to what extent to credit any of their self-serving testimony. *SEC v.*
5 *Phan*, 500 F.3d 895, 909 (9th Cir. 2007) (“[t]hat an affidavit is self-serving bears on its
6 credibility”); *see also Nigro v. Sears, Roebuck & Co.*, 784 F.3d 495, 497 (9th Cir. 2015) (“The
7 district court can disregard a self-serving declaration that states only conclusions”); *F.T.C. v.*
8 *Pub. Clearing House, Inc.*, 104 F.3d 1168, 1171 (9th Cir. 1997) (a “conclusory, self-serving
9 affidavit” may be “insufficient to create a genuine issue of material fact”).

10 Because Facebook’s evidence obviously hinges on credibility determinations that must await
11 the trier of fact, that evidence fails to carry Facebook’s initial summary judgment burden, the
12 evidentiary burden does not shift to Plaintiffs, and thus summary judgment must be denied. *See Fed.*
13 *R. Civ. P. 56* advisory committee’s note to 1963 amendment (“Where an issue as to a material fact
14 cannot be resolved without observation of . . . witnesses in order to evaluate their credibility,
15 summary judgment is not appropriate.”); *McGinest v. GTE Serv. Corp.*, 360 F.3d 1103, 1113 n.5
16 (9th Cir. 2004) (“when ruling on a summary judgment motion, the district court is not empowered to
17 make credibility determinations.”); *S.E.C. v. Koracorp Indus., Inc.*, 575 F.2d 692, 699 (9th Cir.
18 1978) (“[C]ourts have long recognized that summary judgment is singularly inappropriate where
19 credibility is at issue. Only after an evidentiary hearing or a full trial can these credibility issues be
20 appropriately resolved.”); 10A C. Wright, A. Miller & M. Kane, *Federal Practice and Procedure*,
21 §2727, at 480, 485 (3d ed. 1998) (“The party opposing summary judgment does not have a duty to

22 ²² [REDACTED]
23 [REDACTED]

24 ²³ [REDACTED]
25 [REDACTED]
26 [REDACTED]
27 [REDACTED]
28 [REDACTED]

present evidence in opposition to a motion under Rule 56 in [] circumstances . . . when there is an issue as to the credibility of the movant’s evidentiary material.”).

3. Facebook’s Course of Conduct in Violation of BIPA Commenced and Occurred Primarily and Substantially in Illinois

Even if Facebook had not waived its affirmative defense (it has) yet had carried its initial evidentiary burden (it has not), summary judgment would still be unwarranted because Plaintiffs’ claims do not require an extraterritorial application of the statute.²⁴

Contrary to Facebook’s reductionist approach, MSJ at 8-10, under Illinois law “there is no single formula or bright-line test for determining whether a transaction occurs within [the] state.” *Avery*, 835 N.E.2d at 854. It is certainly not required that all “necessary elements of liability” occur within Illinois. *Compare* MSJ at 9, *with Avery*, 835 N.E.2d at 851-53 (concluding that the Illinois law governed transactions occurring “primarily and substantially” in Illinois, even if the injury element is not suffered in Illinois); *Beall Bros. Supply Co. v. Indust. Comm’n*, 173 N.E. 64, 66 (Ill. 1930) (state law did not operate extraterritorially when it provided remedy for injury suffered out of state because the parties entered into a contract in Illinois).

“Instead, a court must analyze whether ‘the circumstances relating to the transaction occur primarily and substantially’ within Illinois.” *Google*, 238 F. Supp. 3d at 1101 (quoting *Avery*, 835 N.E.2d at 853). “Circumstances will vary in every case but the factors considered in *Avery* . . . are instructive: the residency of the plaintiff, the location of harm, communications between parties (where sent and where received), and where a company policy is carried out.” *Id.*; *see also Gros v. Midland Credit Mgmt.*, 525 F. Supp. 2d 1019, 1024 (N.D. Ill. 2007) (“It is [] incorrect [in

²⁴ The parties agree BIPA does not apply extraterritorially. Under Illinois law, a “statute is without extraterritorial effect unless a clear intent in this respect appears from the express provisions of the statute.” *Avery v. State Farm Mut. Auto. Ins. Co.*, 835 N.E. 2d 801, 852 (Ill. 2005). Because the express provisions of BIPA evince no such intent, only violations of BIPA that “take place” inside Illinois are actionable. *See id.*; *accord Google*, 238 F. Supp. 3d at 1100 (holding as to BIPA, “there is no sign of that sort of intent from the Illinois legislature” and thus that BIPA “is not authorized to have extraterritorial effect”).

1 determining whether a disputed transaction occurred in Illinois] to focus on only one aspect of the
2 disputed transaction.”).²⁵

3 Facebook ignores the overwhelming majority of circumstances relating to Plaintiffs’ BIPA
4 claims that occurred in Illinois. Facebook automatically collected Plaintiffs’ scans of face geometry
5 without authorization from photos uploaded in Illinois, and of Illinois residents. Facebook targeted
6 Illinois resident Facebook users in Illinois, failed to get their BIPA-required consent in Illinois,
7 failed to provide BIPA-required notice in Illinois, and issued BIPA-deficient disclosures and data
8 retention policies into Illinois. Facebook even purports to have entered into contracts with those
9 Illinois user residents in Illinois. ECF No. 69 at 6 (Facebook arguing that “[w]hen [Plaintiffs] signed
10 up for and used Facebook’s services, plaintiffs entered into a contract . . .”). Indeed, for a large
11 portion (likely a majority) of the proposed class and subclass – [REDACTED]

12 [REDACTED]
13 [REDACTED]
14 [REDACTED] On these facts, Facebook’s BIPA violations “occur[ed] primarily and substantially in
15 Illinois.” *Avery*, 835 N.E. 2d at 854; *accord Google*, 238 F. Supp. 3d at 1101-02 (under nearly
16 identical circumstances, holding BIPA claims took place in Illinois); *Shutterfly*, 2017 U.S. Dist.
17 LEXIS 149604, at *15-*17 (same).

18 Facebook ignores these facts and hinges its entire argument on the location of a few
19 computer servers [REDACTED] But the physical location of the
20 apparatus that may complete Facebook’s illegal face-scan extraction process is merely one fact
21 among many, and is by no means dispositive. *See Gros*, 525 F. Supp. 2d at 1024 (explaining that “it
22 is [] incorrect to focus on only one aspect of the disputed transaction”); *see also Jamison v. Summer*

23 ²⁵ The legislative history of the BIPA makes two things clear: the General Assembly intended that
24 the Act would (1) “be applicable to private entities doing business in Illinois,” and (2) address the
25 “very serious need [for] protections for the citizens of Illinois when it comes to biometric
26 information.” 95th Ill. Gen. Assem., House Proceedings, 276th Legislative Day, May 30, 2008,
27 at 249 (Statement of Rep. Ryg). “By its express terms, BIPA manifests Illinois’ substantial policy of
28 protecting its citizens’ right to privacy in their personal biometric data,” *Facebook Biometric Info.*
Privacy Litig., 185 F. Supp. 3d at 1169, particularly in interactions with “major national
corporations.” 740 Ill. Comp. Stat. 14/5(b). Nowhere in BIPA, or its legislative history, is there any
indication that its protection is limited to conduct occurring entirely within Illinois, as Facebook
contends.

1 *Infant (USA), Inc.*, 778 F. Supp. 2d 900, 910 (N.D. Ill. 2011) (circumstances relating to claim
2 primarily and substantially occurred in Illinois, even though defendant’s “principal place of business
3 [was] outside of Illinois”). Server location is not the most significant factor in determining the situs
4 of the violation here. BIPA is a statute about *informed consent* – it does not prohibit facial
5 recognition, it merely requires informed consent before biometric data is extracted from photographs
6 uploaded *from within Illinois*.²⁶

7 In *Gros*, for example, the defendant argued that the disputed transaction took place outside of
8 Illinois because the defendant was located in Arizona and the transaction was negotiated between
9 defendant’s representatives in California and Arizona. 525 F. Supp. 2d at 1024. In rejecting the
10 defendant’s argument, the district court explained:

11 *Avery* instructs courts to consider the totality of the circumstances in
12 determining whether the disputed transaction occurred “primarily and substantially”
13 in Illinois. It is therefore incorrect to focus on only one aspect of the disputed
14 transaction. Ford Credit’s argument discounts the importance of such factors as
Gros’ residence, the location of the alleged harm, the site of Gros’ dealings with Ford
Credit, the Illinois court case, and the site of Gros’ communications with MCM – all
of which are “circumstances relating to [the] disputed transaction.”

15 *Id.* at 1024-25 (alteration in original). Likewise in this case, the location of the servers used to
16 extract Plaintiffs’ scans of face geometry is just one aspect of Facebook’s illegal biometrics
17 collection and non-disclosure. The residence of Plaintiffs, the location corresponding to the IP
18 addresses from which Plaintiffs’ photos were uploaded, the location where the transaction was
19 entered, and the location of the alleged harm (*i.e.*, where Facebook failed to obtain the requisite
20 written release prior to extracting and collecting Plaintiffs’ scans of face geometry) – are all
21 “circumstances relating to the disputed transaction,” *id.* at 1024, that occurred in Illinois.²⁷

22 ²⁶ Facebook’s authorities are inapposite. *See, e.g.*, MSJ at 7-10 (citing *Landau v. CNA Fin. Corp.*,
23 381 Ill. App. 3d 61 (Ill. 2008) and *Graham v. Gen. U.S. Grant Post No. 2665, V.F.W.*, 43 Ill. 2d 1
24 (Ill. 1969)). Unlike this case, in *Landau*, the plaintiff “resided in Pennsylvania, bought her policy in
25 Pennsylvania and only had contact with [defendant] in Pennsylvania.” 381 Ill. App. 3d at 64. In
26 *Graham*, the Illinois law at issue focused entirely on injuries from intoxication and the plaintiff’s
injury from intoxication occurred in Wisconsin, not Illinois. 43 Ill. 2d at 2-3. BIPA, in contrast,
focuses on informed consent before collection of biometric data. Facebook failed to obtain informed
consent (yet collected biometric data anyway) from Plaintiffs *in Illinois*. *See supra*.

27 ²⁷ *See, e.g., Specht v. Google, Inc.*, 660 F. Supp. 2d 858, 866 (N.D. Ill. 2009) (in applying *Avery* to
28 an Illinois Deceptive Trade Practice Act claim, the court found that an infringement that “took place
on the Internet and was international in scope” was nonetheless “occurring in Illinois”).

1 In *Google*, an Illinois federal court recently addressed BIPA claims brought by users and
2 non-users under nearly identical circumstances and reasoned as follows:

3 The question, then, is whether Google’s activities – making face templates of
4 [Plaintiffs] in photographs uploaded automatically from Google Droid devices in
5 Illinois – are an extraterritorial (and therefore not-actionable) application of the
6 [BIPA]. . . . [A]ll of the following are Illinois connections: [Plaintiffs] are Illinois
7 residents; [Plaintiffs’] photographs were taken in Illinois; and [Plaintiffs’]
8 photographs were allegedly “automatically uploaded in Illinois to the cloud-based
9 Google Photos service . . . from an Illinois-based Internet Protocol (‘IP’) address.”
[Plaintiffs] also allege that it was in Illinois where Google failed to provide
[Plaintiffs] with required disclosures and failed to get [Plaintiffs’] consent. . . .
[Taking] the Plaintiffs’ allegations as true . . . the alleged violations primarily
happened in Illinois.

10 * * *

11 [Thus] the Court concludes that the Plaintiffs sufficiently allege facts that would
12 deem the asserted violations as having happened in Illinois.

13 238 F. Supp. 3d at 1101-02. In so holding, the court expressly rejected the same argument Facebook
14 presses here:

15 Google contends that the face scans did not occur “primarily and
16 substantially” in Illinois. . . . [based on the] location for the actual scanning of face
17 geometry. In Google’s reckoning, the location of the scan (“the place where a
18 biometric identifier is ‘collected, captur[ed] . . . or otherwise obtained”) is to be
19 seen as the determinative “situs” of the [BIPA] violation. . . .

20 But there is no bright-line rule for determining this *Even if we do
21 definitely determine that the scanning takes place outside of Illinois, that would
22 not necessarily be dispositive.* []”The place of injury or deception is only one of the
23 circumstances that make up a [] transaction and focusing solely on that fact can
24 create questionable results. If, for example, the bulk of the circumstances that make
25 up a [] transaction occur within Illinois, and the only thing that occurs out-of-state is
26 the injury or deception, it seems to make little sense to say that the [] transaction has
27 occurred outside Illinois.”[]

28 *Id.* at 1102 (quoting *Avery*, 835 N.E.2d at 853; citing *Gros*, 525 F. Supp. 2d at 1024).

29 The same analysis applies here. Because the overwhelming majority of circumstances
30 relating to Facebook’s unauthorized collection of Plaintiffs’ biometrics without consent occurred in
31 Illinois, Plaintiffs’ BIPA claims took place in Illinois.²⁸ At the very least, reasonable minds could

28 See also *Jamison*, 778 F. Supp. at 910 (pursuant to *Avery*, plaintiff “clearly ha[d] standing” to
sue under ICFA because plaintiff was resident of Illinois, purchased underlying product at a store in
Illinois and used the products in Illinois, and because defendants “marketed and sold” the products in
Illinois, notwithstanding fact that defendants’ “principal place of business [was] outside of Illinois”);
cf., e.g., *Avery*, 835 N.E. 2d at 854 (concluding that because the “overwhelming majority of
circumstances relating to the disputed transactions in this case – State Farm’s claims practices –

1 disagree as to whether the violations occurred “‘primarily or substantially’” in Illinois, and thus a
2 genuine issue of fact remains and summary judgment must be denied. *See, e.g., Google*, 238 F.
3 Supp. 3d at 1102 (rejecting the same argument raised by Facebook: “[T]he Plaintiffs sufficiently
4 allege facts that would deem the asserted violations as having happened in Illinois. . . . [T]here is no
5 bright-line rule for determining this . . .”).

6 **B. Facebook’s Dormant Commerce Clause Affirmative Defense Does Not**
7 **Warrant Summary Judgment**

8 As an apparent afterthought, Facebook also argues that, “[i]f applied here, BIPA would
9 violate” the dormant Commerce Clause. MSJ at 13. Facebook’s argument fails twice over because:
10 (1) as discussed above, Facebook’s violations of BIPA occurred in Illinois; and (2) Facebook’s
11 compliance with BIPA poses no risk of burdening interstate commerce.

12 The Commerce Clause both affirmatively grants power to Congress to regulate interstate
13 commerce but also implies a negative converse – “a substantive ‘restriction on permissible state
14 regulation’ of interstate commerce.” *Dennis v. Higgins*, 498 U.S. 439, 447 (1991) (quoting *Hughes*
15 *v. Okla.*, 441 U.S. 322, 326 (1979)); *see also S.-Cent. Timber Dev., Inc. v. Wunnicke*, 467 U.S. 82,
16 87 (1984). This negative implication – that states may not take actions that unduly interfere with the
17 affirmative power of the federal government to regulate interstate commerce – is generally known as
18 the “dormant commerce clause.” *See CTS Corp. v. Dynamics Corp. of Am.*, 481 U.S. 69, 87 (1987).
19 If a state regulation is neutral on its face or only has indirect effects on interstate commerce, the
20 regulation will be upheld unless the burden imposed on such commerce is clearly excessive in
21 relation to the putative local benefits. *See Pharm. Research & Mfrs. of Am. v. Cty. of Alameda*, 768
22 F.3d 1037, 1044 (9th Cir. 2014).

23 Facebook contends the “‘practical effect’” of applying BIPA in this case would be to control
24 “‘conduct beyond the boundaries’” of Illinois. MSJ at 13 (citing *Healy v. Beer Inst., Inc.*, 491 U.S.

25 occurred outside of Illinois for the out-of-state plaintiffs[.]” plaintiffs “have no cognizable cause of
26 action under the Consumer Fraud Act”); *Int’l Profit Assocs., Inc. v. Linus Alarm Corp.*, 971 N.E. 2d
27 1183, 1194 (Ill. 2012) (IFCA claim did not occur in Illinois because “the claimant’s residence is in
28 Florida, the location of the deception was in Florida, the damages sought in the counterclaim
occurred in Florida, and almost all of the communication related to the fraud claims occurred in
Florida.”).

324, 336-37 (1989)). Not true. As explained above, the photos of Plaintiffs were uploaded from within the state of Illinois from accounts associated with Illinois residents, and, therefore, Facebook could have obtained (but failed to obtain) a statutorily compliant written release for Plaintiffs in Illinois. Because the photos of Illinois residents were uploaded in Illinois, as determined by IP address, and because Facebook could have but failed to comply in Illinois, the “practical effects” of complying with BIPA are felt entirely in Illinois. *See Healy*, 491 U.S. at 336.^{29,30}

Facebook further argues that complying with BIPA would “overrid[e] the decisions of California and other states.” MSJ at 15. This is a red herring. First, as the Court found in *Google* when confronted with the same argument and nearly identical allegations, the question of Facebook’s ability to comply with BIPA in Illinois without burdening interstate commerce raises fact questions not capable of resolution as a matter of law. *See Google*, 238 F. Supp. 3d at 1102. Moreover, Facebook’s assertion that it cannot comply with BIPA in Illinois without overriding its practices in other states is simply incorrect. Facebook can readily determine whether a particular photograph is subject to the regulations of BIPA – that is, whether a photograph is uploaded from within Illinois – by analyzing whether an Illinois-based IP address is associated with the device

²⁹ Contrary to Facebook’s suggestion that “states [] stay out of this area,” MSJ at 15, courts regularly reject dormant Commerce Clause challenges to state laws regulating or prohibiting Internet activity directed at a particular state’s consumers. *See, e.g., MaryCLE, LLC v. First Choice Internet, Inc.*, 890 A.2d 818, 840-45 (Md. Ct. Spec. App. 2006) (upholding Maryland anti-spam email law); *Ferguson v. Friendfinders, Inc.*, 94 Cal. App. 4th 1255, 1263-66 (2002) (same; California); *State v. Heckel*, 24 P.3d 404, 412 (Wash. 2001) (same; Washington).

³⁰ Through the declaration of Omry Yadan, Facebook offers similar elaborate hypotheticals as Shutterfly and Google did in their failed attempt to show that compliance with respect to non-users would be impossible without impacting nationwide business practices. Regarding the consent of non-users, as the Court in *Google* recognized, BIPA merely requires taking reasonable steps toward compliance and permits obtaining the consent of the “subject of the biometric identifier . . . or the subject’s legally authorized representative.” 740 ILCS 14/15 (b). If Facebook chooses to continue to scan photos of Illinois residents uploaded from Illinois IP addresses, it could comply (*i.e.*, not act negligently) with respect to non-users by obtaining the electronically signed release of the user and confirming that the user obtained authorization for biometric collection of all persons depicted in the photo. If the electronically signed written release is not provided for a particular photograph originating from Illinois (*i.e.*, by the user clicking “No” to an on-screen prompt asking if he or she has obtained authorization from all individuals depicted), then the photograph could still be uploaded but Facebook would have to refrain from collecting any scans of face geometry from the Illinois uploaded photograph. By doing so, Facebook would have taken reasonable steps toward compliance with respect to non-users’ BIPA rights. Alternatively, Facebook could refrain from scanning photos uploaded from Illinois thereby taking BIPA out of the equation altogether.

1 uploading the photograph. *See F.T.C. v. Asia Pac. Telecomm., Inc.*, 788 F. Supp. 2d 779, 786 (N.D.
2 Ill. 2011) (“IP addresses correspond to the geographic location of an Internet connection . . .”).³¹

3 Indeed, Facebook already has demonstrated the ability to deal with similar regulation [REDACTED]

4 [REDACTED]

5 [REDACTED]³² [REDACTED]

6 [REDACTED]

7 [REDACTED]³³ The Ninth Circuit has repeatedly held that such state-specific
8 inconveniences do not violate the dormant Commerce Clause. *See, e.g., Greater L.A. Agency on*
9 *Deafness, Inc.*, 742 F.3d 414; *see also Nat’l Fed’n of the Blind v. Target Corp.*, 452 F. Supp. 2d 946,
10 961 (N.D. Cal. 2006) (rejecting Target’s dormant Commerce Clause challenge to California state
11 law on the ground that “Target could choose to make a California-specific website” and even if

12
13
14 ³¹ Facebook relies on inapposite cases dealing with regulation of content made widely available on
15 the Internet. *See, e.g., MSJ* at 14 (relying on *Am. Booksellers Found. v. Dean*, 342 F.3d 96 (2d Cir.
16 2003)). Unlike Facebook’s cited cases, this lawsuit involves conduct that can be altered or limited
17 by location. *See Greater L.A. Agency on Deafness, Inc. v. CNN*, 742 F.3d 414, 432-33 (9th Cir.
18 2014) (no Commerce Clause burden where law sought to be applied to “videos as they are accessed
19 by California viewers” by a company that “could” engage in targeted activities); *SPGGC v.*
20 *Blumenthal*, 505 F.3d 183, 195 (2d Cir. 2007) (distinguishing *Am. Booksellers* on grounds that
21 defendant “has readily available” a way to distinguish viewers from different states); *Shoemoney*
22 *Media Grp., Inc. v. Farrell*, No. 8:09CV131, 2009 WL 1383281, at *3 (D. Neb. May 14, 2009)
23 (discussing Google’s ability to prevent Internet advertising from appearing in particular locations);
24 *see also MaryCLE*, 890 A.2d at 844 (distinguishing *Am. Booksellers* on similar grounds); *Ferguson*,
25 94 Cal. App. 4th at 1264 (distinguishing similar authority). Even more important than Facebook’s
26 ability to limit its conduct by state (*i.e.*, to photos uploaded outside Illinois) is the fact that this case
27 involves Facebook’s conduct in Illinois, including its collection of personal biometric information
28 from Illinois residents in Illinois. Moreover, *Am. Booksellers* and its progeny appear to have been
premised on a long-outdated understanding of how the Internet works. *See* Jack Goldsmith & Alan
Sykes, *The Internet and the Dormant Commerce Clause*, 110 Yale L.J. 785, 816 (2001) (noting that
those courts “erroneously assume[d] that geographical . . . identification technologies are infeasible,
and that in any event technological imperfection renders them useless”).

24 ³² [REDACTED]

27 ³³ [REDACTED]

1 Target changed “its entire website in order to comply with California law, this does not mean that
2 California is regulating out-of-state conduct”).

3 Of course, Facebook knows this full well. Facebook already has the ability to use IP
4 addresses to determine the geographical locations of incoming photographs.³⁴ See *supra* n.17. And
5 the very same lawyers representing Facebook here made and lost this “overwrought” argument in
6 *Shutterfly*, 2017 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 149604, at *18-*19. Addressing nearly identical circumstances –
7 BIPA’s application to photos uploaded from within Illinois to an online platform headquartered
8 outside Illinois – the Court in *Shutterfly* rejected identical dormant Commerce Clause concerns as
9 follows:

10 According to *Shutterfly*, applying BIPA in this case would . . . [be] especially
11 problematic . . . because California, where it is headquartered, previously rejected
12 legislation that would have regulated the collection and storage of biometric data. . . .
Thus, *Shutterfly* contends that to apply BIPA to these facts would be to override
California’s decision against regulating biometric data.

13 This contention is overwrought. *Shutterfly* cites [cases addressing] . . . laws
14 [that] affected out-of-state conduct in a very different way, and to a very different
degree, than would result from applying BIPA in this case. . . .

15 [Plaintiff]’s suit, as well as his proposed class, is confined to individuals
16 whose biometric data was obtained from photographs uploaded to *Shutterfly* in
17 Illinois. . . . It is true that the statute requires *Shutterfly* to comply with certain
regulations if it wishes to operate in Illinois. But that is very different from
controlling *Shutterfly*’s conduct in other states.

18 *Id.*, at *18-*20; see also *Chinatown Neighborhood Ass’n v. Harris*, 794 F.3d 1136, 1145 (9th Cir.
19 2015) (“[A] state may regulate commercial relationships ‘in which at least one party is located in
20 [that state].’”) On these facts, there is simply “no basis for concluding that applying BIPA in this
21 case would entail control over out-of-state conduct in a way that would run afoul of the dormant
22 commerce clause.” *Shutterfly*, 2017 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 149604, at *21.

23 Thus, just as courts have recognized as to nearly identical misconduct by Google (concerning
24 user and non-user claims) and *Shutterfly* (concerning non-user claims), Facebook has the ability to
25 reasonably comply with BIPA in Illinois by using IP address location technology to limit its

26 _____
27 ³⁴ *Supra* Ex. 17, FBBIPA_00039637 (Form 10-K filed 01/29/15 for the fiscal year ended December
28 31, 2014: “In addition, our data regarding the geographic location of our users is estimated based on
a number of factors, such as the user’s IP address and self-disclosed location.”)

1 biometrics collection practices to photos uploaded from the 49 states other than Illinois. Indeed,

2 [REDACTED]
3 [REDACTED]³⁵ See *supra* n.17. Facebook cites no legal authority, nor is there any,
4 demonstrating that such an approach would result in Illinois projecting its regulatory policies into
5 other states in violation of the dormant Commerce Clause.

6 **V. IN THE ALTERNATIVE, FACEBOOK’S MOTION SHOULD BE**
7 **DEFERRED**

8 As detailed above, Facebook’s motion for summary judgment should be denied in its
9 entirety. In the alternative, Plaintiffs request under Rule 56(d) that the Court defer Facebook’s
10 motion until the close of expert discovery, consistent with the Court’s scheduling order. See Fed. R.
11 Civ. P. 56(d).³⁶ To prevail under Rule 56(d), a party must show: (1) by way of affidavit, the specific
12 facts it hopes to elicit from further discovery; (2) the facts sought exist or are likely to exist; and
13 (3) the sought-after facts are relevant to opposing summary judgment. See *Doyle v. City of Medford*,
14 327 F. App’x 702, 703 (9th Cir. 2009) (citing *Family Home & Fin. Ctr., Inc. v. Fed. Home Loan*
15 *Mortg. Corp.*, 525 F.3d 822, 827 (9th Cir. 2008)).

16 “[T]he purpose of Rule 56[(d)] is to prevent ‘railroading’ the non-moving party through a
17 premature motion for summary judgment before the non-moving party has had the opportunity to
18 make full discovery.” *1443 Chapin St., LP v. PNC Bank, Nat’l Ass’n*, 258 F.R.D. 186, 187 (D.D.C.
19 2009) (citing *Celotex Corp. v. Catrett*, 477 U.S. 317, 326 (1986)). “Although Rule 56[(d)] facially
20 gives judges the discretion to disallow discovery when the non-moving party cannot yet submit
21 evidence supporting its opposition, the Supreme Court has restated the rule as *requiring*, rather than
22 merely permitting, discovery “where the non-moving party has not had the opportunity to discover
23 information that is essential to its opposition.” “*Burlington N. Santa Fe R.R. v. Assiniboine & Sioux*

24 ³⁵ [REDACTED]
25 [REDACTED]

26 ³⁶ Rule 56(d) was formerly Rule 56(f) and became Rule 56(d) as part of the 2010 Amendments to
27 Rule 56. See Fed. R. Civ. P. 56, Advisory Committee Notes, 2010 Amendment to Rule 56
28 (“Subdivision (d) carries forward without substantial change the provisions of former subdivision
(f).”).

1 *Tribes of the Fort Peck Reservation*, 323 F.3d 767, 773 (9th Cir. 2003) (citing *Anderson v. Liberty*
2 *Lobby, Inc.*, 477 U.S. 242, 250 n.5 (1986)). “Especially where, as here, documentation or witness
3 testimony may exist that is dispositive of a pivotal question . . . lightning-quick summary judgment
4 motions can impede informed resolution of fact-specific disputes.” *Id.* at 774.

5 Ultimately, this case will turn in part on expert testimony explaining (and disputing) what
6 precisely Facebook’s technology does, to whom, and how it works. Facebook’s premature motion is
7 premised on declarations and testimony from Facebook engineers opining on how Facebook’s
8 technology purportedly works, and attempts to create the appearance of “no factual issues” by only
9 allowing the Court to see their self-serving side of the story, while blocking Plaintiffs from
10 discovering the truth. As detailed in Plaintiffs’ Rule 56(d) declaration,³⁷ Facebook’s motion comes
11 while relevant documents remain unproduced, before expert discovery has even begun, and months
12 before summary judgment motions are due per the Court’s scheduling order. Additionally, as set
13 forth in the Rule 56(d) declaration of Gullen’s counsel, Omry Yadan’s deposition should be re-
14 opened in light of alleged revelations contained in his declaration concerning Gullen’s photos.
15 Further, Plaintiffs’ expert should be permitted to review the relevant source code implicated by
16 Yadan’s statements regarding Gullen.

17 Where, as here, critical expert discovery has yet to even commence, deferral under Rule
18 56(d) is warranted. “Generally, a district court should grant a Rule 56[d] motion where the party
19 opposing summary judgment timely seeks relief and specifically identifies relevant information for
20 which there is a basis to believe the information sought actually exists.”³⁸ *Am. Guar. & Liab. Ins.*
21 *Co.*, 334 F. App’x at 840 (citing *VISA Int’l Serv. Ass’n v. Bankcard Holders of Am.*, 784 F.2d 1472,
22 1472 (9th Cir. 1986)). “[S]ummary judgment should not be granted while [an] opposing party
23
24

25 ³⁷ [REDACTED]

26 ³⁸ In *Am. Guar. & Liab. Ins. Co. v. Westchester Surplus Lines Ins. Co.*, 334 F. App’x 839, 840 (9th
27 Cir. 2009), the Ninth Circuit found it an abuse of discretion to deny a Rule 56(d) motion where the
28 case management order scheduled dispositive motions months later; see *Bio-Med. Research, Ltd. v.*
Thane Int’l, Inc., 249 F. App’x 539, 541 (9th Cir. 2007).

1 timely seeks discovery of potentially favorable information.’’ *State Dep’t of Soc. Servs. v. Leavitt*,
2 523 F.3d 1025, 1034 (9th Cir. 2008).³⁹

3 **VI. CONCLUSION**

4 For the foregoing reasons, Facebook’s motion for summary judgment should be denied in its
5 entirety. Summary judgment should be entered for Plaintiffs on Facebook’s waived affirmative
6 defense of extraterritoriality under Illinois law. In the alternative, Facebook’s motion should be
7 continued until after the close of expert discovery, consistent with the Court’s scheduling order.

8 DATED: December 22, 2017

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25 ³⁹ See also *Deere & Co. v. Ohio Gear*, 462 F.3d 701 (7th Cir. 2006) (summary judgment based on
26 one-sided opinion not permitted); *Vance v. United States*, 90 F.3d 1145 (6th Cir. 1996) (expert
27 discovery and opinions typically not obtained and explored until background discovery and
28 documents have been obtained); *1443 Chapin St.*, 258 F.R.D. at 187-88 (where plaintiff could
identify topics on which expert discovery had not taken place, motion for summary judgment was
premature).

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ATTESTATION

I, David W. Hall, hereby attest, pursuant to N.D. Cal. Local Rule 5-1(i)(3), that concurrence to the filing of this document has been obtained from each signatory.

s/David W. Hall
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I certify under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States of America that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed on December 22, 2107.

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